

The Seattle Times

Wednesday, August 11, 2010 - Page updated at 12:01 AM

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Republican challengers say Dicks is vulnerable

By Susan Gilmore
Seattle Times staff reporter

U.S. Rep. Norm Dicks has spent 34 years in Congress, ranks 13th on the House seniority list and leads a powerful appropriations subcommittee.

Still, he says he isn't taking his re-election for granted.

"Look at the climate," said Dicks, 69, a Democrat from Bremerton. "Things change. When the cycle is negative, everybody is affected by it except [Seattle Congressman] Jim McDermott. He's the only one who can ride it out."

The two Republican challengers in the 6th Congressional District race are hammering Dicks over federal spending, his use of congressional earmarks to fund projects and his lengthy stint in office. The top two vote-getters in the Aug. 17 primary will advance to the November general election.

Doug Cloud, an attorney making his fourth run for Congress, said Dicks "is vulnerable with the right candidate." Jesse Young, a technology consultant who's never run for office before, said the race is "very much in play."

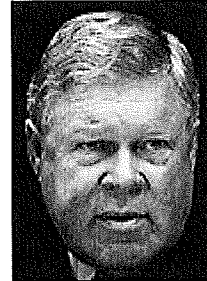
Leading political handicappers in Washington, D.C., don't agree, at least for now. Both Congressional Quarterly and the Cook Political Report rate the district solidly Democratic.

And the \$988,000 in campaign cash Dicks had raised by July 28 dwarfs the \$39,200 reported by Cloud and the \$28,300 reported by Young.

Norm Dicks

As chairman of the House Defense Appropriations subcommittee, Dicks leads a panel that directs hundreds of billions in Pentagon spending.

He's been a staunch supporter of Boeing and a longtime champion of the armed forces.



He supported the war in Iraq and now backs President Obama's plan to end combat operations there by the end of the month. He wants to keep U.S. troops in Afghanistan for another year and then reassess the strategy.

Dicks' use of earmarks has drawn scrutiny. He and four other lawmakers were investigated last year by the Office of Congressional Ethics over \$137 million in contracts they directed to defense companies that had hired a lobbying firm, PMA Group, founded by a former subcommittee staffer.

The ethics office dropped the probe in December without taking action. In March, House Democratic leaders "with Dicks' support" banned the practice of earmarking projects to private contractors.

Dicks has landed money for endangered-species preservation and pushed for Puget Sound cleanup. He helped start a flow of federal dollars to redevelop downtown Tacoma and steered money to build a tunnel that funnels ferry traffic under part of downtown Bremerton.

He supports the new federal health-care law and backs efforts to give people who are in the country illegally a path to citizenship.

Doug Cloud

Cloud, 53, a lawyer in Tacoma, is attacking Dicks on two key fronts: Dicks' use of earmarks and the fact that his son heads the Puget Sound Partnership, a state agency charged with cleaning up Puget Sound. It got \$50 million in federal funding.

Lawmakers such as Dicks who use earmarks are "killing the economy by rewarding their friends and political supporters with economic benefits," said Cloud, a former Kitsap County deputy prosecutor.

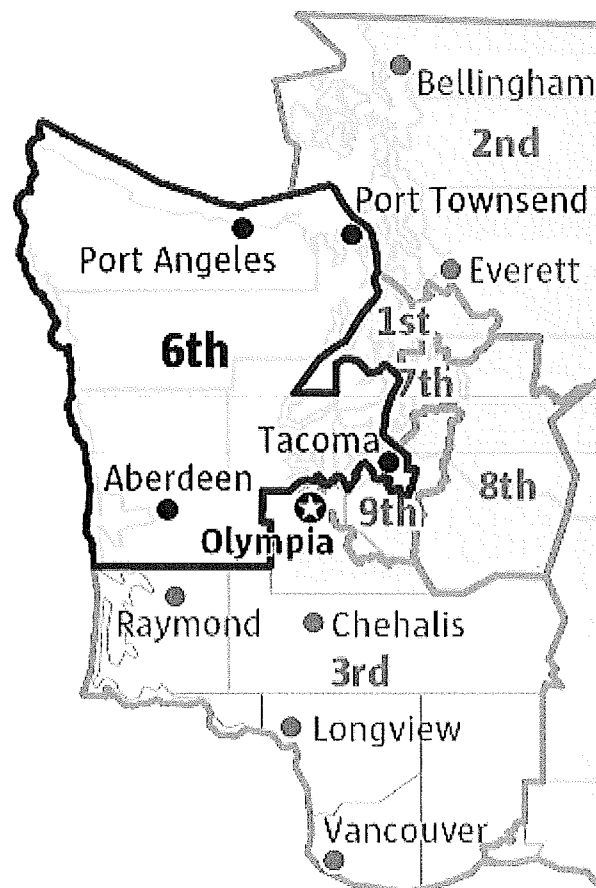
"Then he used his power to set up multimillion-dollar funding to provide his kids with jobs duplicative of existing agencies," he said, arguing that the state Department of Ecology should oversee Puget Sound cleanup.

Dicks staunchly defends his use of earmarks and says that all congressional earmarks represent just one-half of 1 percent of discretionary spending in the federal budget.

"Congress has the power of the purse," Dicks said. "Why should we send people [to Congress] if they don't do something to help their district?"

Dicks also said he had nothing to do with his son's job. David Dicks, an environmental lawyer, was appointed to the position by Gov. Chris Gregoire. "I knew if I stuck my nose into it, he wouldn't have gotten the job," Dicks said.

Washington's 6th Congressional District



THE SEATTLE TIMES

Norm Dicks: DEMOCRAT

Age: 69

Family: Wife Suzanne; two children

Residence: Bremerton

Education: Bachelor's and law degrees, University of Washington

Political/job experience: Member of U.S. House of Representatives, 1976-present; former legislative assistant and administrative assistant for U.S. Sen. Warren G. Magnuson

Website: www.normdicks.com

Doug Cloud: REPUBLICAN

Age: 53

Cloud, who calls himself a conservative Republican, opposes the federal health-care law and said it will lead to rationing of care. He also opposes financial bailouts and the economic-stimulus plan approved by Congress.

Jesse Young

Young, 33, was raised in Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood and was homeless for a time. He graduated as valedictorian from Woodrow Wilson High School while living in a camper trailer.

He went on to Notre Dame and later worked as a software engineer.

He said that as an engineer he can speak to issues in the information-technology world. "You've got someone [in Congress] who's been there a third of a century and missed the IT revolution," Young said about Dicks.

Young resigned from his job as a business technology consultant with Russell Investments in Tacoma to run for Congress.

"Growing up homeless in Hilltop, I can go back and relate to people," he said. "I know how to rise up."

He is running on fiscal responsibility in balancing the budget. He supports the U.S. presence in Iraq and Afghanistan, saying he'd rather play offense than defense in the Middle East.

He wants to help create jobs for small businesses and says the federal health-care law is unconstitutional.

Young said he doesn't worry about Cloud being in the race: "He's more libertarian in his thoughts. I'm more fiscally and socially conservative."

Susan Gilmore: 206-464-2054 or sgilmore@seattletimes.com

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Family: Wife Elice; three children

Residence: Gig Harbor

Education: Bachelor's and law degrees, University of Washington

Political/job experience: Attorney in private practice; former Kitsap County deputy prosecutor; ran three previous times for Congress

Website: www.dougcloud.com

Jesse Young: REPUBLICAN

Age: 33

Family: Wife Jennie; five children

Residence: Gig Harbor

Education: Bachelor's degree in management information systems, Notre Dame

Political/job experience: Former business technology consultant with Russell Investments, Tacoma; resigned to run for office

Website: www.jesseyoungforcongress.com

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

August 18, 2010

Election results offer up valuable lessons

Jim Camden
The Spokesman-Review

Tags: 2010 elections Cathy McMorris Rodgers chris marr Clint Didier Clyde Cordero Daryl Romeyn Dave Stevens Dino Rossi Frank Malone John Koster Mike Baumgartner Patty Murray Rick Larsen steve tucker

Thousands of votes are still to be counted from Tuesday's primary, but along with most races, some lessons are clear.

Lesson 1: It may be uncomfortable to be an incumbent this year, but it's not fatal. Few incumbents were eliminated in the state's unusual top two primary, but some clearly have their work ahead of them.

Count among them state Sen. Chris Marr, a Spokane businessman who received party acclaim four years ago as the first Democrat to win the seat in Spokane's 6th District in six decades. He trails GOP challenger Mike Baumgartner in primary election balloting.

Or ask Spokane County Prosecutor Steve Tucker, a three-term Republican incumbent who faced two party challengers and finished second to Democrat Frank Malone.

While U.S. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers and most sitting House members had an easy primary night, five-term Democratic incumbent U.S. Rep. Rick Larsen is trading the lead with Republican challenger John Koster in northwestern Washington's 2nd District.

For all the knock against establishment candidates, a six-way race for the one open U.S. House seat in Washington was trimmed down to the most established contenders of the bunch, Republican Jaime Herrera, a state legislator, and Democrat Denny Heck, a former legislator, former chief of staff to Gov. Booth Gardner, and president of TVW, the state version of C-Span.

The most noticeable – and arguably the most heavily targeted – incumbent on Tuesday's ballot, three-term U.S. Sen. Patty Murray, easily topped a 15-candidate field. She's got less than 50 percent of the ballots cast, so the general election won't be a cakewalk, but Republican Dino Rossi got second place with about 34 percent. He was described by his GOP rivals as the next worst thing to an incumbent: an establishment candidate.

Pollster Stuart Elway noted Wednesday morning that Murray and Rossi were 12 percentage points apart, just as they were in a June 15 poll.

Lesson 2: The Tea Party, or whatever one calls the movement to pare back government, is limited in the Pacific Northwest, and Sarah Palin's support can generate interest, but not necessarily votes.

That's what Clint Didier, a former pro football player and current Eltopia farmer, discovered in the U.S. Senate primary. He had a strong and consistent "cut federal government, follow the Constitution" message, similar to 2008 GOP presidential hopeful Ron Paul, and picked up Palin's endorsement in May. But like Idaho Congressional candidate Vaughn Ward, who got the former vice presidential nominee's nod earlier this year, Didier finished out of the money in the primary.

Ron Paul supporters control the Spokane County GOP, and they had a mixed night. They supported John Ahern, who won the intra-party contest with Shelly O'Quinn to face Democratic state Rep. John Driscoll. But they also endorsed Dave Stevens, a former deputy prosecutor and their own vice chairman, in his fight against Tucker. Stevens finished third among Republicans and fourth overall.

Which leads to Lesson 3: Party endorsements may be nice, but name recognition is better.

After 12 years on the job, Tucker has name recognition. So does Ahern, who held the state House seat for four terms before losing it to Driscoll in 2008. That probably counted for more than the party's endorsement.

Spokane County Democrats recruited and endorsed Clyde Cordero, a Spokane Valley resident who sells Internet advertising, to run against three-term U.S. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers. Problem was, Cordero was a recent transplant to the area and few Democrats knew him. Daryl Romeyn, a former television weatherman and outdoor living reporter, joined the race late but was immediately better known. So too, apparently, was Barbara Lampert, who has run for some office every year since 1996. She's never won, but her name might be getting very familiar to voters.

Romeyn finished second, to advance to the general; Lampert finished third, well ahead of the Democrat's hand-picked candidate, Cordero.

Get more news and information at [Spokesman.com](http://www.spokesman.com)

The Seattle Times

Monday, August 9, 2010 - Page updated at 11:40 AM

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5 candidates running for 30th District seat

By Nancy Bartley
Seattle Times staff reporter

Five candidates are vying for the 30th Legislative District seat being vacated by state Rep. Skip Priest, R-Federal Way, who is leaving the Legislature to run for Federal Way mayor.

The candidates are doorbelling, speaking to service clubs and talking about what they'd do to stretch tax dollars as the state faces another multibillion-dollar budget shortfall over the next couple of years.

The top two vote-getters in the Aug. 17 primary will move on to the general election "regardless of their party affiliation."

The 30th District includes Federal Way, Northeast Tacoma, Fife, Milton, Algona and some unincorporated areas east of Federal Way.

Priest's Position 2 House seat has been held by a Republican since 1995.

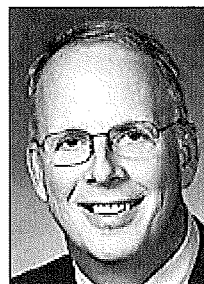
In the Position 1 House seat, incumbent Rep. Mark Miloscia, a Democrat, and Republican challenger Shawn Sullivan will both advance to the November election. In the Senate race, incumbent Sen. Tracey Eide, a Democrat, faces Republican newcomer Tony Moore. They also will move on to the general election.

For all the Position 2 House candidates, the state's budget shortfall is a key issue and they agree cutting back is mandatory.

"I think we're going to have to look at a variety of avenues and close the loopholes," said Carol Gregory, 66, who leads an anti-poverty nonprofit group in Renton and is the only Democrat in the Position 2 race. She ran against Priest in 2008 and lost.

She said the state should cut redundant programs, noting, "There are six agencies doing some kind of workforce development."

Gregory was hesitant to take a side on Initiative 1098, a proposed state income tax targeting the wealthiest earners that will be on the November ballot.



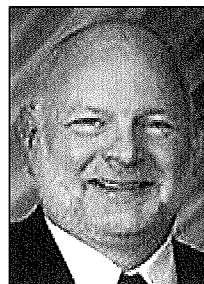
Republican state Rep. Skip Priest



Katrina Asay



Ed Barney



Jerry Galland

"I get nervous when we do tax policy by initiative," she said. But she added, "We will be better off in the short term if it passes."

The Republicans in the field all oppose I-1098.

Gregory is leading her competitors in campaign donations, having raised \$21,200. She's also the only candidate in the race who is rated "outstanding" by the Municipal League of King County, a nonprofit that evaluates and rates local candidates.

Her contributors include the Western Washington Trial Lawyers for Victims Rights, Washington State Labor Council and the Washington Education Association.

Milton Mayor Katrina Asay, 52, a Republican, is the only candidate in the race who has held elected office. She believes the function of the state is to provide basic services to the public â€" "things we can't do ourselves" â€" such as law enforcement, highway maintenance and education.

"I'd start prioritizing and look at funding the basics first," she said.

Asay has raised \$13,250 and is rated as "very good" by the Municipal League. In her statement to the league, she wrote that as mayor of Milton for the past 6-½ years, she's seen the state's impact on her city.

"For the cities to be healthy financially, the state must be healthy," she wrote. "Over the past few years, the state has increasingly swept money from funds dedicated to cities and that the cities rely on to survive. The state must get its spending under control before any of the other priorities such as education and public safety can be funded appropriately."

She's received contributions from the Washington Association of Realtors, Premera Blue Cross and Windermere Realty.

Republican Anthony Kalchik, 54, a real-estate broker and small-business owner, said, "I know there are plenty of unnecessary expenses" in state government. The Municipal League rated him as "good."

Kalchik ran unsuccessfully for Miloscia's House seat in 2006. So far in this campaign, he has raised more than \$3,300 in contributions, mostly from individuals.

On his website, he says his priority would be funding K-12 and higher education. He favors cutting taxes for the poor and small businesses.

About the income-tax initiative, he said, "Right now is not the time to raise the taxes."

Republican Jerry Galland, 55, is best known for championing the rights of property owners who didn't want to be annexed to the city of Federal Way in 2007.

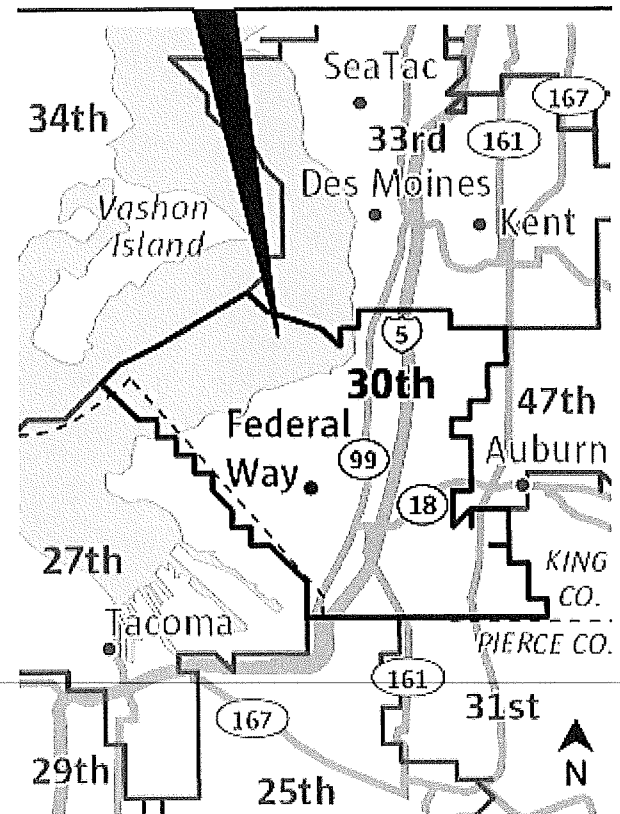


Carol Gregory



Anthony Kalchik

30th Legislative District



Source: Washington State Redistricting Commission

M. BAMBACH / THE SEATTLE TIMES

Galland, who has raised \$6,100 in donations, said he's running primarily to overturn a bill passed a year ago that, he believes, makes it easier for cities to annex unincorporated property.

On his website, he also says he wants to overturn the tax increases passed by the Legislature last year and promote an online system to ensure all workers are legal residents of the United States.

He was rated "not qualified" by the Municipal League.

Republican Ed Barney, 56, a Federal Way School Board member, did not return phone calls to The Seattle Times. The Municipal League also said it was unable to contact him, but rated him "adequate." He has no reported contributions.

Primary-election ballots will be mailed to voters at the end of the month.

Nancy Bartley: 206-464-8522 or nbartley@seattletimes.com

Anthony Kalchik, Republican

Age: 54

Family: Wife, Maria

Residence: Federal Way

Education: Volynskiy Technical College; Rockwell Institute; A+ Institute real-estate academy.

Political/job experience: Precinct Chair, 30th District GOP; owner and broker of A. Kalchik Realty; member, Federal Way Chamber of Commerce; Founder/director, Slavic Political Coalition; founder, International Food Bank in Kent; unsuccessful run for state Legislature, 2006.

Website: www.votekalchik.com

Carol Gregory, Democrat

Age: 66

Family: Husband, Gil; one grown daughter

Residence: Federal Way

Education: B.A. in education, University of Washington

Political/job experience: Director, Burst for Prosperity, an initiative to help with job training, promotion of family-wage jobs and small-business development; ran unsuccessfully for Legislature, 2008; worked in former Gov. Booth Gardner's administration; president, Washington Education Association, 1975-1981; schoolteacher

Website: www.friendsofcarolggregory.com

Ed Barney, Republican

Age: 56

Family: Wife, Barbara, five children.

Residence: Federal Way

Education: B.A. in communications, Brigham Young University; AA business/accounting, College of San Mateo, Calif.

Political/job experience: Owner, promotional products business; member, Federal Way School Board; job coach/trainer; member, board of directors of a purchasing co-op for school districts.

Website: Not available

Jerry Galland, Republican

Age: 55

Family: Wife, Tracey, two grown children

Residence: Unincorporated Auburn

Education: Cleveland High School

Political/job experience: Millwright for Boeing

Website: <http://gallandstaterepresentative.com>

Katrina Asay, Republican

Age: 52

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Family: Husband, Neil; three grown children

Residence: Milton

Education: Davis High School, Davis, Calif.; Heald Business College, Sacramento, Calif.

Political/job experience: Mayor of Milton for seven years; Pierce County Regional Council vice chairman; past president of Pierce County Cities and Towns Association; member, Puget Sound Regional Council; board member, Suburban Cities Association; board member, Association of Washington Cities.

Website: www.VoteKatrinaAsay.com

Exhibit 279

Page 2 of 4

John White

From: Deutsch, Joanie [jdeutsch@secstate.wa.gov]
Sent: Monday, September 15, 2008 10:56 AM
To: 'ADAMS - Nancy McBroom'; 'ASOTIN - Elaine Johnston'; 'BENTON - Bobbie Gagner'; 'CHELAN - Evelyn Arnold'; 'CLALLAM - Patty Rosand'; 'CLARK - Greg Kimsey'; 'COLUMBIA - Sharon Richter'; 'COWLITZ - Kristina Swanson'; 'DOUGLAS - Thad Duvall'; 'FERRY - Dianna Galvan'; 'FRANKLIN - Zona Lenhart'; 'GARFIELD - Donna Deal'; 'GRANT - Bill Varney'; 'GRAYS HARBOR - Vern Spatz'; 'ISLAND - Sheilah Crider'; 'JEFFERSON - Donna Eldridge'; 'KING - Sherril Huff'; 'KITSAP - Walter E. Washington'; 'KITTITAS - Jerry Pettit'; 'KLICKITAT - Brenda Sorensen'; 'LEWIS - Gary Zandell'; 'LINCOLN - Shelly Johnston'; 'MASON - Karen Herr'; 'OKANOGAN - Laurie Thomas'; 'Pat Gardner'; 'PEND OREILLE - Marianne Nichols'; 'PIERCE - Pat McCarthy'; 'SAN JUAN - Milene Henley'; 'SKAGIT - Jeanne Youngquist'; 'SKAMANIA - J. Michael Garvison'; 'SNOHOMISH - Carolyn Diepenbrock-Weikel'; 'SPOKANE - Vicky Dalton'; 'STEVENS - Tim Gray'; 'THURSTON - Kim Wyman'; 'WAHIAKUM - Diane Tischer'; 'WALLA WALLA - Karen Martin'; 'WHATCOM - Shirley Forslof'; 'WHITMAN - Eunice Coker'; 'YAKIMA - Corky Mattingly'; 'ADAMS - Heidi Hunt'; 'BENTON - Brenda Chilton'; 'BENTON - Stuart Holmes'; 'BENTON - Susie Christopher'; 'CHELAN - Nissa Burger'; 'CHELAN - Skip Moore'; 'CHELAN - Stephanina Wilder'; 'CLALLAM - Julie Ridgway'; 'CLALLAM - Shannon Cosgrove'; 'CLALLAM - Shoona Radon'; 'CLARK - Tim Likness'; 'CLARK - Tom Godkin'; 'COLUMBIA - Naedene Shearer'; 'COWLITZ - Ameer Paxton'; 'COWLITZ - Carolyn Myers'; 'COWLITZ - Tom Gunn'; 'DOUGLAS - Marty Whitehall'; 'DOUGLAS - Pat Pennington'; 'DOUGLAS - Priscilla Navares'; 'FERRY - Liz Stinson'; 'FRANKLIN - Diana Killian'; 'GARFIELD - Peggy Laughery'; 'GRANT - Faith Anderson'; 'GRANT - Sally Andrews'; 'GRAYS HARBOR - Helen Bensinger'; 'GRAYS HARBOR - Julie Murphy'; 'ISLAND - Anne LaCour'; 'ISLAND - LoAnn Gulick'; 'ISLAND - Michele Reagan'; 'JEFFERSON - Betty Johnson'; 'JEFFERSON - Karen Cartmel'; 'KING - Bill Hueneekens'; 'KING - Bobbie Egan'; 'KING - Christine Rudolph'; 'KING - Harry Sanders'; 'KING - Jacqueline Timmons'; 'KING - Janice Case'; 'KING - Laird Hall'; 'KING - Patricia Ware'; 'KING - Rene LeBeau'; 'KING - Sandy McConnell'; 'KITSAP - Dolores Gilmore'; 'KITTITAS - Sue Higginbotham'; 'KLICKITAT - Brandie Sullivan'; 'KLICKITAT - Pam Pimley'; 'LEWIS - Beth Rosbach'; 'LEWIS - Heather Borts'; 'LEWIS - Mariann Zumbuhl'; 'LINCOLN - Dale Vaughan'; 'LINCOLN - Tina Brown'; 'MASON - Amber Cervantes'; 'OKANOGAN - Joesph MacLean'; 'OKANOGAN - Mila Jury'; 'Chris Stephens'; 'PEND OREILLE - Liz Krezinsky'; 'PEND OREILLE - Tina Olson'; 'PIERCE - Lori Augino'; 'PIERCE - Mike Rooney'; 'SAN JUAN - Carlys Allen'; 'SAN JUAN - Doris Schaller'; 'SKAGIT - Casey Earles'; 'SKAGIT - David Cunningham'; 'SKAGIT - Linda Herod'; 'SKAGIT - Margaret Enders'; 'SKAGIT - Peter Lichtenheld'; 'SKAMANIA - David O'Brien'; 'SKAMANIA - Heidi Penner'; 'SNOHOMISH - Cindy Gobel'; 'SNOHOMISH - Garth Fell'; 'SNOHOMISH - Joe Smith'; 'SNOHOMISH - Michelle Smith'; 'SNOHOMISH - Wendy Mauch'; 'SPOKANE - Kit Anderson'; 'SPOKANE - Kris Forgey-Haynie'; 'SPOKANE - Mike McLaughlin'; 'SPOKANE - Paul Brandt'; 'STEVENS - Beverly Lamm'; 'THURSTON - Carrie Wack'; 'THURSTON - Lynnette Thornton'; 'THURSTON - Steve Homan'; 'THURSTON - Tillie Naputi-Pullar'; 'THURSTON (VR) - Keith Mullen'; 'WAHIAKUM - Karen Fleming'; 'WALLA WALLA - Debbie Benavides'; 'WALLA WALLA - Katrina Manning'; 'WALLA WALLA - Pam Hamilton'; 'WHATCOM - Carolyn Duim'; 'WHATCOM - Debbie Adelstein'; 'WHATCOM - Ethel Heyrend'; 'WHATCOM - Pete Griffin'; 'WHITMAN - Debbie Hooper'; 'YAKIMA - Kathy Fisher'

Cc: 'Elections - All'; 'Ammons, Dave'; 'Aust, Erika'; 'Blinn, Katie'; 'Brenda Chilton'; 'Deutsch, Joanie'; 'Gwen Corneilius'; 'Hamlin, Shane'; 'Handy, Nick'; 'Lupe Camacho'; 'Pryor, Lindsay'; 'Zylstra, Brian'

Subject: General Election ad campaign - Update

Attachments: General08_ColorLogoSpanish.jpg; General08_ColorLogo.eps; General08_ColorLogo.jpg; General08_ColorLogo.pdf; General08_ColorLogoChinese.eps; General08_ColorLogoChinese.jpg; General08_ColorLogoChinese.pdf; General08_ColorLogoSpanish.eps; Grant.doc

Hello election partner!

I just wanted to remind you that the second half of our media campaign will begin shortly.

This is the \$800,000 ad campaign we sent out to bid in April. The following all star team was put together for this purpose and continues to work together for the General Election portion of this campaign:

6/30/2010

Dave Ammons, OSOS Communications
Erika Aust, OSOS Elections
Katie Blinn, OSOS Elections
Bobbie Egan, King County Elections
Bobbie Gagner, Benton County
Brenda Chilton, Benton County
Greg Kimsey, Clark County
Gwen Corneilius, Thurston County
Shane Hamlin, OSOS Elections
Lupe Camacho, Yakima County
Mike Garvison, Skamania County
Paul Brandt, Spokane County
Lindsay Pryor, OSOS Elections
Brian Zylstra, OSOS Communications

Our ad team also includes Daniels-Brown Communications and MediaPlus+.

The General Election ad campaign will consist of TV, radio, internet, and cable. This is not your typical ad campaign, we are buying time and having the stations produce the spot with their talent and we are receiving what's called 'value added' (consisting of locally-produced content paid for by the media outlet we purchased the time from).

We split the \$800,000 with 60 percent allocated for the Primary and approximately 40 percent allocated for the General Election.

Our team met on September 9th to go over the ad campaign for the General Election.

Here is an update for you on what you will be seeing and hearing all the way up to the General.

The paid ad campaign will start internet and radio around September 22nd, with a main message of the 30 day voter registration deadline. It will drive people to vote.wa.gov. This push will run through the October 4th registration deadline.

The 15 day in-person voter registration deadline will be handled through earned media on a county by county basis.

Following the October 4th deadline, internet and radio will switch to different messages. These messages include ballots postmarked on or before Election Day, the top two vote-getters from the Primary will be on the General Election ballot, every vote counts, with a sense of urgency and importance, and will drive people to vote.wa.gov. This push will run through Election Day.

The paid campaign will start TV on September 29th with the main message of every vote counts and a sense of urgency and importance. It too will drive people to vote.wa.gov. This push will run through Election Day.

Attached are the logos for the General Election.

6/30/2010

For those of you interested, prior to the Primary we sent around individualized press releases for all 39 counties to send your local media as you saw fit. We don't know how useful you thought that was, so if you are interested in working with us to do that again, please send me an email. (I attached an example of the press release we did before the Primary to this email.)

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions you might have in regards to this campaign.

Sincerely,

Joanie Deutsch | Policy Analyst

Elections Division | Office of the Secretary of State

Phone (360) 902-4182 | Cell (360) 791-4239

www.secstate.wa.gov/elections

OSOS LETTER OF AGREEMENT NO. P-3858

LETTER OF AGREEMENT FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
ELECTIONS DIVISION

RECEIVED

April 3, 2008

APR 10 2008

FISCAL

H. Stuart Elway
Elway Research, Inc.
7107 Greenwood Ave. N.
Seattle, WA 98103

Dear H. Stuart Elway:

This letter documents the terms of agreement for your services to provide staff and all things necessary to conduct a Forum of not less than forty (40) people. The members selected for the Forum will be registered voters divided by gender, age, party identification, education and income. The members will be equally divided between Republican, Democrat and other (Independent, Libertarian, Green, etc.).

The Forum members shall be asked a variety of questions ranging from what the group currently understands to what they understand when it is described to them. The Forum will be used to test information that will be presented to voters relating to the Top Two Primary.

Total costs of this Letter of Agreement shall not exceed the amount of \$15,000.

The period of performance under this contract will be from April 7, 2008, irrespective of the date of execution, through April 16, 2008.

The Forum shall be conducted April 10, 2008.

Upon completion of the services, the Contractor shall submit an invoice to the Office of the Secretary of State (hereinafter referred to as the "Agency") Billing Contact, Bea Huynh-Tien, P.O. Box 40224, Olympia, WA 98504-0224, describing the services provided and amount due. After approval of the invoice, the Agency will remit payment to the Contractor's address. Travel expenses require prior approval from the Agency Project Manager and will be reimbursed at up to current State travel reimbursement rates.

The Agency Project Manager for the Agreement is Joanie Deutsch, P.O. Box 40220, Olympia, WA 98504-0220, Phone: (360) 902-4182, Fax (360) 586-5629, email jdeutsch@secstate.wa.gov.

The Agency Billing Contact is: Bea Huynh-Tien, P.O. Box 40224, Olympia, WA 98504-0224, phone (360) 586-2026, fax (360) 586-4311, email bhuynhtien@secstate.wa.gov.

It is understood that, in providing these services, you are not an employee or agent of the Agency or the State of Washington.

OSOS LETTER OF AGREEMENT NO. P-3858

If this Letter of Agreement is acceptable, please so indicate by your signature below and return this document to William Fieber, Contracts Officer, P.O. Box 40224, Olympia, WA 98504 -0224. This letter, when signed by both parties, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

Sincerely,


Dan Speigle
Deputy Secretary of State
4-7-2008
Date

ACCEPTED:

H. Stuart Elway
4-8-08
Date

I am: (check one)

() individual/sole proprietor () partnership
☒ corporation () other

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Attorney General's Office

Tax I.D. Number: 91-1350576
UBI Number: 600-642-088

Fieber, Bill

From: Fieber, Bill
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 11:08 AM
To: Deutsch, Joanie
Subject: Elway Research and OFM

Our filing as an emergency was accepted as such. So we have their blessing. By now I'm guessing the focus group is almost done. Hope it has gone well.

*Bill Fieber
Contracts Officer
Office of the Secretary of State
P.O. Box 40224
Olympia, WA 98504-0224
360.586.7523
360.586.4311 (FAX)
bfieber@secstate.wa.gov*

4/11/2008

Fieber, Bill

From: Winter, Erica (OFM) [Erica.Winter@OFM.WA.GOV]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2008 4:07 PM
To: Fieber, Bill
Subject: RE: Emergency Filing

Ok, it should be all ready to go. Just ignore the "earliest possible start date" because it does not apply in this situation. Please make sure I entered the dollar amount and the dates correctly. The next step is to complete the filing justifications as we discussed. The link to those questions is now available at the top of the "Contract" tab screen. Once you have finished those questions and attached the contract you should be able to submit the filing (bottom of the "Filing Summary" page).

I am heading out about 4:20pm but if you have any further questions or complications Becci should be available.

Thanks!

Erica Winter

From: Fieber, Bill [mailto:bfieber@secstate.wa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2008 3:58 PM
To: Winter, Erica (OFM)
Subject: FW: Emergency Filing

Becci, RILEY@OFM.WA.GOV

*Bill Fieber
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Olympia, WA 98504-0224
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bfieber@secstate.wa.gov*

From: Fieber, Bill
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2008 4:07 PM
To: 'Winter, Erica (OFM)'
Subject: Emergency Filing

The U.S. Supreme Court concluded that the Top Two Primary for the State of Washington is constitutional on March 18, 2008.

In August 2008, the State will conduct a Top Two Primary. Voters will not have to pick a party and will be able to choose among all candidates for each office. In each race, the two candidates with the most votes will advance to the General Election. A Forum is urgently needed to test information that will be presented to voters relating to the Top Two Primary for the August Primary.

Bill Fieber

4/9/2008



Politics 2010: Washington elections chief hopes national spotlight sparks voter turnout

Published: Aug. 15, 2010 at 4:14 AM

By NICOLE DEBEVEC
United Press International

National attention on a U.S. Senate race and an open congressional seat should combine to heighten voter interest in the Washington primary Tuesday, the state's chief election officer says.

"We are seeing a surge of interest in politics and campaigns at both the national and state level, with people again talking about a 'change' election," Secretary of State Sam Reed said in a posting on the office's Web site. "We have a great U.S. Senate race, some unusually heated legislative contests all around the state, an open 3rd Congressional District, some Supreme Court races that could be essentially decided in the primary, and much more."

Several national prognosticators predict Sen. Patty Murray, seeking a fourth term in November, will retain her seat. Despite the red-tinged eastern portion of the state -- which some say is too rural and sparsely populated to overcome the heavily Democratic metro areas -- elections guru Larry Sabato gave her race a "Democratic Hold."

However, Real Clear Politics rated Murray's seat as a toss-up.

On the Republican ticket, front-runner Dino Rossi has skipped several Tea Party movement forums, but observers told the Seattle Times his absence likely won't hurt in either the primary or the general elections. Recent polls indicate Rossi can put some space between himself the Tea Party through Tuesday's primary yet count on the movement's support in a November tilt with Murray.

Challenging Rossi are Bellingham businessman Paul Akers, a political newbie, and Clint Didier, Pasco farmer whose sharp rhetoric as lured Tea Party enthusiasts, including Sarah Palin.

In the 1st Congressional District, U.S. Rep. Jay Inslee won re-election in 2008 with nearly 70 percent of the vote, second among the Washington's congressional delegation to the Rep. Jim McDermott, who racked up 83 percent in being re-elected to his seat in the 7th Congressional District.

Even Republican analysts expect more of the same in 2010, the Times said.

But that doesn't mean the party won't try to upset Inslee's apple cart. Two Republican challengers -- former Microsoft manager James Watkins and financial planner Matthew Burke -- say the district can't afford Inslee and the Democratic stimulus measures they say racked up huge debt and haven't helped the small businesses that create the bulk of new jobs, the Times said.

The 3rd Congressional District is viewed nationally as a battleground in the fall's midterm election because the seat's current occupant, Democratic Rep. Brian Baird, is retiring after six terms.

Despite not being a favorite among the Republican establishment, Republican candidate David Castillo grabbed the fancy of the three newspapers in the district -- the (Longview) Daily News, the (Centralia) Chronicle and The (Vancouver) Columbian. The Seattle Times also endorsed Castillo, along with Democrat Denny Heck.

The Columbian actually hedged its bet by endorsing two Republicans, Castillo and State Rep. Jaime Herrera, in the primary.

Castillo, an Olympia businessman who worked in former President George W. Bush's administration, declared his candidacy and got his campaign running before Baird announced he was retiring, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer said.

The National Republican Congressional Committee touted Herrera, one of the party's "Young Guns" candidates, within hours of Baird's announcement. Herrera is supported by former Sen. Slade Gordon and U.S. Rep. Cathy McMorris-Rodgers.

Castillo, who has called for the repeal of the healthcare law, has been endorsed by FreedomWorks, a major Tea Party

Movement voice led by former House Majority Leader Dick Armey.

Heck, an Olympia businessman, faces opposition on the Democratic side from peace activist Cheryl Crist.

In the 8th Congressional District, incumbent Republican Dave Reichert has some heat in trying to be elected to a fourth term from Tim Dillon, a Yarrow Point town council member. Among other things, Reichert has been criticized for voting against a new small-business lending fund, which he called another bailout.

In the Democratic race, former Microsoft executive Suzan DelBene is the apparent front-runner.

U.S. Rep. Adam Smith, a Tacoma Democrat running for his eighth term in the 9th Congressional District, faces three opponents in the Aug. 17 primary election: a Pierce County Council member with Republican backing, another Republican who ran against Smith in 2008 and a Green party candidate.

"Last April I got my 100th call: 'We need you to run for Congress,'" Dick Muri, a Pierce County Council member since 2003 and has been re-elected twice, told the Times. "If there's any year I'd have a chance of winning, this would be the year. I'm not running against Adam Smith, I'm running against his voting record."

Two years ago, Smith defeated retired engineer James Postma, who hopes he has a chance to exact a measure of revenge. Green Party candidate Roy Olson works in the state Insurance Commissioner's Office.

Washington conducts a "Top 2 Primary" in which the two candidates receiving the most votes in a primary race advance to the general election. Candidates for a partisan office may state a party preference if they choose, information from the secretary of state's office said.

Party preference information has no bearing on how the election is conducted or who advances from the primary to the general election, the office said. Instead, candidates advance solely on how many votes they receive.

The Top 2 primary, approved in 2004, was inaugurated in the 2008 primary and general elections.

In addition, 38 of Washington's 39 counties vote primarily by mail, with registered voters receiving ballots about two weeks before the primary.

Secretary of State Reed predicted a 38 percent voter turnout Tuesday, compared with an average of 34 percent for the last seven even-year, non-presidential year primaries. The turnout four years ago, the last comparable year, was 38 percent and should be at least matched this year, Reed said.

While conceding a "minority of our voters will be deciding our November finalists," Reed said he "really secretly hopes" voter turnout is in the 40s.

"I'll predict a reasonably strong 38 percent and just hope it's even better," he said.

The Seattle Times

Wednesday, August 18, 2010 - Page updated at 02:01 AM

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Murray, Rossi advance in Senate race

By Jim Brunner
Seattle Times political reporter

Republican Dino Rossi will advance to a November matchup with three-term Democratic U.S. Sen. Patty Murray in a race that could determine control of the Senate.

Rossi, the former Sammamish state senator and two-time unsuccessful gubernatorial candidate, easily outpaced former NFL player Clint Didier, a Republican who courted tea-party voters, to place second in Tuesday's primary.

Murray received about 46 percent of the statewide vote in early returns, to Rossi's 34 percent.

Murray was running particularly strong in heavily Democratic King County, which is expected to account for more than a third of the total votes.

The primary results, in both the Senate and congressional races, showed few signs of the sweeping anti-incumbent sentiment seen in some other states.

Most of the state's incumbent House members were comfortably leading their races. Democratic U.S. Rep. Rick Larsen looked like the most vulnerable member of the state delegation, coming in just ahead of his Republican challenger, Snohomish County Commissioner John Koster.

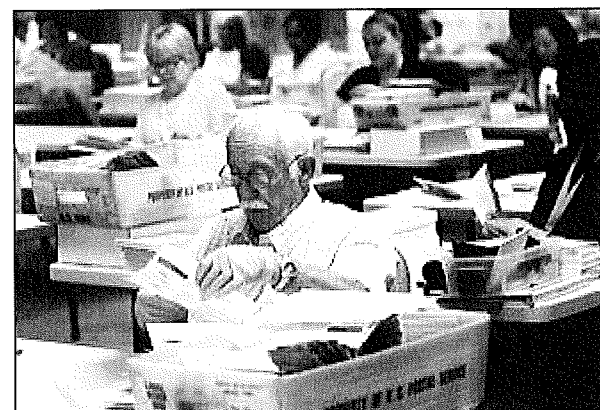
The result of the Senate race was little surprise to the Murray and Rossi camps, which had attacked each other for months while mostly ignoring the other contenders.

The high stakes were highlighted by the primary-day Seattle visit by President Obama, who raised cash for Murray and said Rossi was "counting on amnesia" if he expects voters to warm again to a Republican agenda they rejected two years ago.

Ranked as a toss-up by national political observers, the Senate race is likely to see millions in spending on television ads by the campaigns and special-interest groups. Murray has already raised nearly \$12 million, while Rossi pulled in \$1.3 million in his first month of campaigning.



KEN LAMBERT / THE SEATTLE TIMES
President Obama, next to Sen. Patty Murray, walks to the microphone at Grand Central Bakery in Seattle, where they met with small-business owners.



ELLEN M. BANNER / THE SEATTLE TIMES
Temporary worker Bob Brown opens ballots at the King County election office in Tukwila Tuesday. Hundreds of workers were hired to help with the primary election.

At her campaign headquarters in Seattle, Murray arrived in jeans and tennis shoes, greeted by chants of "six more years!" "This is a critical election," she said. "I want to keep my tennis shoes on and keep on fighting for you."

Hosting a couple hundred campaign supporters at a barbecue at his Bellevue headquarters, Rossi said, "It's time to treat people like adults. They know Washington, D.C., can't keep spending money, running up debt and borrowing money."

"After tonight," he added, "we're one step farther along in our conversation about what kind of country we want to be."

Rossi was lured out of political retirement by national GOP leaders worried they didn't have a strong-enough challenger for Murray. His entry into the race pushed Washington onto the national midterm-election map as a battleground for control of the U.S. Senate.

Complicating Rossi's plans was the spirited campaign by former Washington Redskins tight end Didier, who ran as a conservative tea-party favorite with backing from former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin. An alfalfa farmer, Didier angrily attacked the federal government as a predator and promised "hell to pay" if he made it to Washington, D.C.

In the closing weeks of the campaign, Didier made the unusual move of teaming up with another underdog Republican candidate, Bellingham businessman Paul Akers, to protest the GOP establishment sweeping them aside in favor of Rossi.

But the political newcomers failed to make it much of a contest. Didier was grabbing about 12 percent of the statewide vote, and Akers came in a distant fourth.

Though Didier has said his main goal is to see Murray defeated, he wasn't ready to commit to a Rossi endorsement, saying he wanted to have a "sit-down" first. "I've got to see more fire in the belly. I've got to see more conviction," Didier said.

"I'm gonna try to coach Dino up a bit on how to get my followers," Didier said, adding that Rossi needs to "stand for something other than name ID, because that's what he won this thing on."

Murray, first elected as a "mom in tennis shoes" in 1992, has accumulated seniority and influence as a member of the Senate appropriations committee — a perch she's used to deliver hundreds of millions of dollars to local schools, ports, trains and roads.

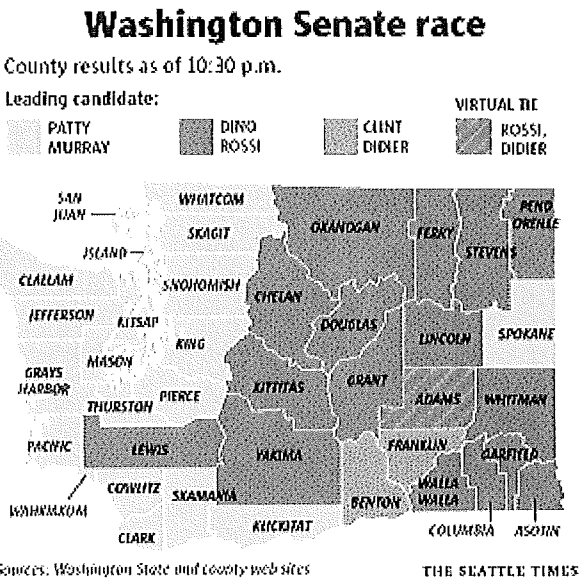
In an ordinary year, that might be a powerful résumé for an incumbent seeking re-election. But this year, Republicans hope to turn it into a negative by playing off public anger over high unemployment and the \$13 trillion federal debt.

"I respect Senator Murray," Rossi said, "but her ideas don't work."

Democrats have sought to remind voters that Rossi is aligned with the Bush administration's economic policies, which they argue led to the economic disaster still hurting the country.

Murray said in an interview Tuesday night, "I understand the frustration people have today. The people I represent and speak out for are hurting."

But she said "we cannot afford to go back" to Bush-era policies.



During his visit to Seattle for Murray, Obama ripped Rossi for calling for the repeal of Wall Street-overhaul legislation and said Rossi wants to return to "the old rules" that caused the worst crisis since the Depression.

Staff reporters Jonathan Martin, Nicole Tsong and Carly Flandro contributed to this report.

Jim Brunner: 206-515-5628 or jbrunner@seattletimes.com

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AUG 6 2008

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Top Two Primary System May Force Stronger Competition Among Same Party Candidates

By Curt Woodward
Associated Press Writer

(AP) - It's no secret that under Washington's new "top two" primary system, third-party candidates probably won't get within shouting distance of the general election ballot.

But in solidly partisan spots, from the Okanogan to the heart of Seattle, even major-party hopefuls could find themselves officially unable to play in November for the first time in state history.

What's that mean for voters, candidates, and the political wizards who put the pieces in play? Hard to say, at least until a few years of top two primaries are safely in the books.

Over time, though, observers see potential for deepened intraparty factions, as challengers who would normally fall away in the primary live to wage their campaigns through the fall.

That, in turn, could place a higher premium on would-be officeholders who appeal to the center of their constituents' political ideology. And the new dynamic could crimp the coveted ability of safe incumbents to subsidize more competitive campaigns with their "surplus" campaign cash.

"It's not going to be the same ballgame in some of those safe districts, because they're not safe anymore," University of Washington political scientist Bryan Jones said.

The 2008 primary will be the top two's debut, with ballots now heading to voters. They must be cast or postmarked by Aug. 19.

Patterned loosely after Louisiana's system, the top two allows voters to once again pick whichever candidate they like best, regardless of party.

But instead of sending representatives from each party to the general election, the top two advances the two biggest vote-getters to November — even if

Democrats.

That could lead to some intriguing matchups. For instance, if the system would have been used in 1996, the governor's race would have featured Democrats Gary Locke and Norm Rice, because both got more primary votes than conservative Republican Ellen Craswell.

Western Washington University political scientist Todd Donovan thinks the possibility of one-party runoffs is probably a side effect of the top two's approval by voters under Initiative 872.

"I don't know if anybody who voted for 872 was thinking, 'Cool, this means we can have two Republicans running against each other for governor,'" he quipped.

Nevertheless, one-party challenges are now part of the electoral landscape. Legislative seats already guarantee some examples of this new breed of single-party face-offs:

- An open state House seat in the 7th Legislative District, which encompasses the state's northeastern corner, has drawn five Republican contenders.

- The Legislature's 8th District, centered around southeast Washington's Tri-Cities, features Republican Rob Welch challenging incumbent Rep. Larry Haler, R-Richland.

- State Senate budget Chairwoman Margarita Prentice, D-Renton, will face one of two Democratic opponents — Juan Martinez or Scott McKay — in November's election for the 11th District, which includes south Seattle and suburbs.

- Another incumbent, Sen. Karen Fraser, D-Olympia, has an intraparty challenge from the only other person to file for the Olympia-area 22nd District, Erik Lee.

In addition, two open state House seats in Seattle are virtually guaranteed to advance a pair of Democrats to the general election —

Democrats Reuven Carlyle and John Burbank are probably headed for a general election faceoff, vying to replace Rep. Jim McIntire, D-Seattle, who is running for state treasurer. Carlyle's campaign has raised about \$160,400, and Burbank reports nearly \$115,000 in donations.

Likewise, Scott White and Gerry Pollet are the likely pairing for the 36th District seat vacated by retiring Rep. Helen Sommers, D-Seattle. White has reported more than \$69,900 in campaign contributions, while Pollet has collected more than \$39,000.

Jones, the University of Washington professor, is not a fan of the top-two system. He sees strong potential for one-party matchups to expose rifts within the parties — reform-minded lefties versus blue-collar union Democrats, and social conservatives pitted against business-oriented Republicans.

"You can imagine people figuring this out and saying, 'Let's take one social conservative and try to knock off that wimpy business guy who wants to play with the Democrats,'" Jones said. "There could be a lot of that. It just depends on how long it takes this to work itself out."

Other observers, including Donovan and independent pollster Stuart Elway, say intraparty dynamics could eventually lead to more moderate candidates.

"The idea of safe seats, where only the hardcore true believers vote in the primary, tends to result in people more from ... the ends of the party spectrum, as opposed to the middle," Elway said.

In any case, the experts say it's probably a mistake to try divining too much from the outcome of Washington's very first whirl with such a new system.

"There's potential for lots of changes that we don't really know yet," Elway said. "It can't help but change the way the mechanics the

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

WSJ.com
JUNE 1, 2010

California Weighs Change in Primary Voting

Californians will vote next week on a bold experiment: a ballot measure that aims to make their politics less fractious by replacing two-party primary elections with a system backers say can help fix the state's notorious legislative dysfunction.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is among those supporting Proposition 14, which would install a "top-two" primary for state-level offices and congressional races. Voters could choose any candidate on the ballot, regardless of party, and the two top vote-getters would advance to the general election.

Proponents, including major business groups, say the top-two system would put more moderate politicians on the ballot who could end the partisan gridlock that has come to define Sacramento. Opponents—including the Democratic, Republican and most minor parties—say it ultimately would reduce voter choice. The system is largely unproven.

If voters approve the measure on June 8, California would become only the second state with a top-two primary; Washington state introduced an identical process in 2008.

But Californians, having suffered years of statehouse stalemates over everything from budgets to prisons, appear game to try the solution. A May 19 poll by the nonpartisan Public

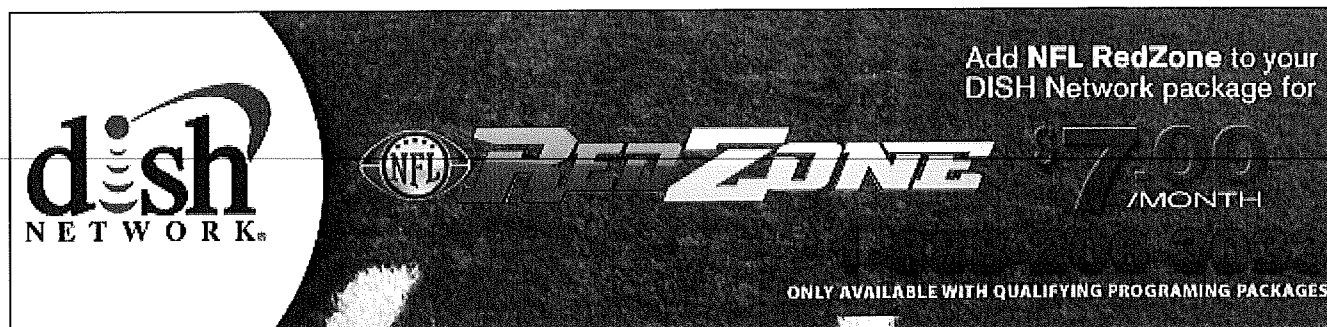
Policy Institute of California showed 60% of likely voters in favor of Prop 14 and 27% against.

The backers' theory is this: The current system tends to force candidates to woo the ideologues who are more likely to vote in—and thus have bigger sway in—primaries. So Democrats tend to appeal to the more-liberal end of their spectrum, while Republicans court their more-conservative voters. The result is a general election offering candidates from opposite ends of the spectrum.

With a top-two primary, "you will have to appeal as a candidate not to the extremes but to the majority, to everybody, Democrats and Republicans and independents," Mr. Schwarzenegger told a meeting of business people last month.

Opponents say there is little evidence a top-two primary system produces more-moderate lawmakers. Even if it does, they say the downsides aren't worth it. For example, under Prop 14, November ballots in heavily liberal or conservative regions would likely feature only two Democrats or only two Republicans.

"For many Democrats, they'd rather be struck by lightning than be forced to vote for a Republican, and vice versa," said Steve Maviglio, a Democratic consultant and spokesman for the No on Proposition 14 campaign.



The advertisement features the Dish Network logo on the left. In the center, the NFL RedZone logo is displayed with the NFL shield and the words "RED ZONE" in a stylized font. To the right, text reads "Add NFL RedZone to your DISH Network package for \$7.99 /MONTH". At the bottom, a small line of text states "ONLY AVAILABLE WITH QUALIFYING PROGRAMMING PACKAGES."

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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Smaller political parties say the measure threatens their vitality. "Unless we can manage to make it past the primary," said California Green Party spokesman Derek Iversen, "we're never going to be seen on the general election ballot and it's going to make it seem that we don't exist."

The California Republican Party decided earlier this year that if Prop 14 passes, it will adopt a caucus-nominating system in which the party backs a single GOP candidate.

Data on the top-two primary's effect are scant. Todd Donovan, a Western Washington University political scientist, said the most visible consequence of Washington's primary system is found in safe Democratic or Republican legislative districts, where incumbents now face tougher general-election challenges from someone in their own party.

But, confirming some fears from Prop 14 opponents, he said the change is encouraging the Democratic and Republican parties to back a single candidate in primaries to avoid splitting the vote and depriving them of a candidate in the general-election.

Write to Stu Woo at Stu.Woo@wsj.com

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Established candidate beats the establishment's candidate in 5th District primary

August 24, 2010

By Dan Catchpole

NEW — 4:00 p.m. Aug. 24, 2010

Established candidates took the lead in early results for the Aug. 17 primary race for Position No. 2 in the 5th Legislative District. Incumbent state Rep. Glenn Anderson, a Republican, staked a large lead ahead of Democratic challengers David Spring and Dean Willard.

Anderson, a Fall City resident, received 58 percent of the votes counted. Spring, a North Bend resident, garnered 25 percent. Willard received 16 percent, despite having raised more campaign money than Anderson and Spring combined.

Voters had seen Anderson's and Spring's names on previous ballots. They ran against each other in 2008, when Anderson beat Spring with 51 percent of the vote, with 2,201 votes.

The district includes North Bend and Snoqualmie, plus parts of Maple Valley, Sammamish, most of Issaquah and unincorporated King County.

District voters sent Anderson to Olympia in 2000 and re-elected him in subsequent elections.

Democrats have made no secret of their desire to unseat Anderson. At Willard's campaign kick-off, state Rep. Geoff Simpson told attendees that "there is no one in the Legislature who is more despised by Democrats" than Anderson.

Willard, an information technology consultant and a former executive at Bellevue-based T-Mobile, was backed by the party establishment. His campaign raised more than \$75,000 – and spent more than \$67,000. Anderson raised \$50,000 and spent \$25,000. Spring raised and spent about \$4,000.

But when ballots were tallied, voters picked Anderson and Spring.

The primary election's results won't affect Anderson's message, which has focused on encouraging job growth by paring back state government and cutting government spending to balance the state budget.

"People are frustrated by government," he said.

Anderson said he wants to bring more high-tech and manufacturing jobs — and revenue — to the state by reducing business regulation.

"We don't want a Wild West framework, but right now, nobody understands the rules," he said.

But the state also has to make deep spending cuts to avoid a "California-style meltdown," he said.

The state faces a projected \$3 billion budget shortfall during the next two years. That comes after the Legislature had to close a \$2.8 billion budget shortfall this year.

Spring is focused on school funding, as he was in his 2008 campaign. He is the only candidate to have a child in a public school in the 5th District.

The Legislature took a small step toward increasing state money for public schools this spring when it redefined — and broadened — what the state was required to pay for. But the law did not allocate more money for schools. Anderson co-sponsored the law.

"If I beat Glenn this fall, it will be for the same reason I got more votes than Dean in the primary — namely that I support school funding, including Initiative 1098, while Glenn opposes it," Spring said.

He credits his strong showing in this election and in 2008 to volunteers concerned about school funding.

"The election in the 5th District is not about the Republican or Democratic party. It is about whether we will fairly fund our public schools," Spring said.

District voters last elected a Democrat — former state Sen. Kathleen Drew — in 1992. Dino Rossi edged out Drew four years later. Republicans rode to victory in ensuing elections for the statehouse seats.

While Anderson led the field by a large margin, that lead might not be as big in November, said Todd Donovan, a political-science professor at Western Washington University.

"The only big deal on the primary ballot was the Republican U.S. Senate contest. That makes it likely that more Republican voters than usual were mobilized," he said. "In November, that mobilization edge might not be there — at least not as much."

Campaign spending can change the voter pool characteristics, as well.

As candidates spend more money before the general election, that "wakes up the peripheral voters," Donovan said.

Dan Catchpole: 392-6434, ext. 246, or editor@snovalleystar.com.

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Bellevue Reporter

Washington Election '08: Get ready for the main event

By **CRAIG GROSHART**

Bellevue Reporter Editor, Editor

Aug 30 2008

If politics were boxing - and sometimes it certainly seems that way - then we have finished with the sparring and its now time for the main event. In other words, the general election will be nothing like the primary.

The primary had its moment of angst for the Democratic and Republican parties. The new system - called the Top Two - no longer guaranteed that a Democrat and a Republican would move on to the general election. In some King County districts, it will be two Democrats vying for the seat.

However, that is the exception. Where races are contested around here, most still will have a Democrat and a Republican.

That said, the general election offers candidates and issues of far-reaching significance. Voters should begin paying attention now.

At the top is the battle for President of the United States. Democrat Barack Obama and Republican John McCain already are hard at work trying to convince voters to choose them as the person to take the country beyond the past eight years of President Bush.

The country will have to choose between distinct political differences.

That's also true in the race for Congress in the Eighth District. Dave Reichert and Darcy Burner have been spatting at each other in press releases for the past two years. The next few months will take the rhetoric even higher.

It's no less important at the state level. The rematch between Chris Gregoire and Dino Rossi already has taken up where it left off four years ago. The question this time is whether the voters like the job Gregoire has done or want to give Rossi the reins.

~~Legislative races seem less of a contest. Most primary races weren't that close. Those trailing have their work cut out for them.~~

If most partisan races look tight, it is nothing compared to the battles we can expect over several issues and funding packages.

Most significant is Initiative 1000 that would legalize assisted suicide. The issue goes to the core of most people's beliefs.

<http://www.printthis.clickability.com/pt/cpt?action=cpt&title=Washington+Election+%2708%3A+Get+rea...> 9/2/2008

There's also the issue of Sound Transit's Phase 2 plan to add more buses and extend light rail - at a cost of \$18 billion to \$22 billion.

Start thinking about all this now. The Nov. 4 election will be here sooner than you think.

Bellevue Reporter Editor, Editor Craig Groshart can be reached at cgroshart@reporternewspapers.com or 425-453-4233.

Find this article at:

http://www.pnwlocalnews.com/east_king/bel/opinion/27639079.html

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Monday, Sep. 01, 2008

Benton County commissioner race difficult to predict

By Franny White, Herald staff writer

Prosser residents historically have opposed moving the Benton County seat from their town to Kennewick.

But Fred Staples, the retired Superior Court judge who wants to become a county commissioner and have the public vote on moving the county seat, says he's not especially worried about getting Prosser votes.

"The people in Prosser alone, that's very few," he said. "It's not enough to offset Kennewick."

There are about 81,000 registered voters countywide. Kennewick has more than 12 times as many registered voters as Prosser.

In the primary, only voters in each commission district could cast a ballot.

But when the general election arrives in November, all of the county's registered voters get to weigh in on the two Benton County commission races.

That makes trying to use primary election results to forecast the general election difficult.

As of Friday, Staples leads the District 1 race with 5,500 votes, or 40 percent. Incumbent Leo Bowman is close behind with 5,351, or 39 percent.

In the District 3 race, Kennewick Mayor Jim Beaver leads with 6,315 votes, or 58 percent. Incumbent Claude Oliver is trailing with 4,603 votes, or 42 percent.

Prosser Mayor Paul Warden predicts most of his city's residents will vote for Bowman in the District 1 race because of their zeal to keep the county seat.

Bowman has said there's no practical reason to move the county seat, but will leave the decision up to voters.

Staples plans to submit signatures in about a week from his more than two-year petition drive on the issue.

"That's when you get a higher turnout, when you have an issue very near and dear to people's hearts," he said.

Prosser residents voted overwhelmingly in 1976 to keep the county courthouse in Prosser. The measure won with nearly a three-to-one margin.

And they decked their courthouse with celebratory yellow ribbons in 1984, when Staples' previous attempt to move the county seat failed to get the required 60 percent approval.

Prosser used to be political powerhouse, agreed Kennewick attorney Diehl Rettig, who organized the 1976 effort to build a courthouse in the Tri-Cities.

"That whole town rallied," he recalled. "They pulled out all the stops and had a very well-financed campaign."

But Rettig doesn't know if Prosser will have as much sway this year. The county was a major employer for the small city back in 1976, he said.

But now that Prosser has diversified its economy with tourism and wine making, he thinks its residents may not fight as passionately for their county seat status.

"They are a force to be reckoned with," he said. But "perhaps not the force that they once were."

And Bowman points out that Staples' lead is narrowing. Staples was ahead by 149 votes in Friday's count, a drop from initial tallies after the primary.

"That's not very far to go," Bowman said.

Bowman, who had roadside signs and rang doorbells for the primary, said he will ramp up his campaign efforts, while Staples said he will actively campaign for the first time.

Staples only spent his time gathering signatures for his petition.

The county seat issue could also be a factor in the District 3 race.

Incumbent Oliver has said it's not necessary to move the county seat. He believes building a new administrative building in Kennewick while also keeping the Prosser courthouse would best serve the county. Rough estimates have the administrative building costing at least \$11.3 million.

But Beaver has said it's time to make a decision on where the seat should be -- then move on.

Oliver speculated that Beaver's 1,700-vote lead occurred because Oliver spent the primary season being a county commissioner, not campaigning.

He plans to campaign in the coming weeks.

Beaver is not concerned that the general election will include a broader base of voters. He said he has name recognition throughout the county.

The state's new top two primary, in which the top two candidates with the most votes in each race advance to the general election regardless of their party, has made this year's commission race a single-party affair. Staples, Beaver, Bowman and Oliver all list themselves as Republicans.

Under the previous primary system, one candidate from each party advanced. Now voters must decide among a slate that's all Republican.

The Benton County Republican Party's official policy is to support any Republican incumbent, said county chairman Patrick McBurney.

And he thinks more people will support the District 1 incumbent, Bowman, over Staples.

McBurney predicts people who initially voted for District 1's third-place contender, West Richland City Councilman Merle Johnson, will side with Bowman come November because Bowman is running on several issues, while Staples has addressed only the county seat issue. But Staples thinks he'll receive

many of Johnson's votes.

For now, Staples said he doesn't have enough detailed information on many county issues to give a specific opinion on other issues beyond the county seat.

But he said he will consider each issue as they come up if he's elected county commissioner.

In the Oliver-Beaver race, McBurney said Oliver will have to work hard to overcome Beaver's lead because "it seems there may be some dissatisfaction in the voters."

Benton County Democratic chairman Bob Parazin can see his party members supporting any of the candidates.

Many Democrats support Staples' petition, but Bowman has solid support in both parties, he said.

And he said many local Democrats agree with Oliver's efforts to keep the Fast Flux Test Facility alive for medical isotope production. But both Oliver and Beaver have ties to labor, a common Democratic cause.

Perhaps all that's certain in the two races is they promise a lively fall campaign.

"It's a good race," Bowman said. "That's what the American way is. This is going to be fun."

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GOP strives to make numbers work in its favor for 18th District seat

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By Kathie Durbin / The Columbian | Posted: Thursday, May 6, 2010 7:57 am | (1) Comments

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Washington's top two primary has left the two major political parties wondering how they fit into the political process now that they have no formal role in nominating candidates.

But now, in the crowded race for an open 18th Legislative District seat, the Republican Party has found a new role: Increasing the mathematical chances that one of its six GOP candidates will advance to the November election.

It's a story of intrigue that involves a secret ballot and a sealed envelope that could end up in the paper-shredder, its contents never to be disclosed.

When state Rep. Jaime Herrera, R-Camas, announced in December that she would run for Congress, her announcement inspired a rush of enthusiastic would-be successors.

"It's an attractive seat. It's in a Republican district, and open seats in Republican districts don't come along too often," said Clark County Republican Chairman Ryan Hart. The 18th covers Salmon Creek, Ridgefield, Battle Ground, Camas, Washougal, north Clark County and south Cowlitz County.

In all, six Republicans — Shannon Barnett, Anthony Bittner, Robert Dean, Ann Rivers, Jon Russell and Brandon Vick — formally launched campaigns and began raising money. Also in the race are Democrat Dennis Kampe and Richard Carson, an independent.

Then, someone sat down and did the math.

Based on voting records, about 60 percent of the vote in the 18th goes to Republican candidates, 40 percent to Democrats.

Each of the eight candidates will be vying to finish among the top two in the Aug. 17 primary. With just one Democrat in the mix, Republicans could be reasonably confident that one of theirs would make the cut.

But suppose Democrats fielded a second candidate, and the two split the 40 percent of the vote that typically goes to Democrats? With six candidates competing for the other 60 percent, it wasn't hard to imagine a scenario in which Dems could nab both primary slots.

What to do?

At their meeting Tuesday, county party leaders approved a plan.

On May 22, precinct committee officers will interview all six Republican candidates. "Each candidate will have five minutes to give a speech, there will be a Q & A, and then the PCOs will vote," Hart said.

The names of the three candidates who get the most votes will be placed in a sealed envelope, where they will remain until the June 11 filing deadline for state and local candidates.

"If a second Democrat files, that is where we run the risk with a top two primary system, and we will reveal our results," Hart said. "If a second Democrat doesn't file, we will destroy the ballots and results, and all six candidates will run. Our hope is not to interfere."

Of course, the party has no legal power to force anyone to drop out of the race, as Hart conceded.

Cowlitz County, where about 15 percent of the voters in the 18th live, already has endorsed Barnett, a county planning commissioner, and will not take part in the Clark County secret ballot, Hart said.

Tom Hann, co-founder of the populist organization We the People Vancouver, would like to see the Republican Party use an open and transparent process for vetting and recommending candidates.

We the People has been conducting its own public vetting process for several weeks. The goal, Hann said, is to be transparent and inclusive and give every candidate a chance to demonstrate his or her qualifications.

In contrast, the GOP plans to make its own recommendations without a public vetting, Hann said, adding, "We will offer them our process."

Hart said the party's preference would be to let the process work without interference, but the risk is too great not to have a contingency plan.

"It would be really bad if the Republicans had a really good year around the state but managed to lose a seat in one of the most conservative districts because of the top two primary," he said. "As the Republican Party, we have a responsibility to protect that Republican seat."

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